

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.121 as follows:

Claims 1-2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): A method for producing frequency-converted laser radiation of enhanced power stability and minimum degradation comprising the steps of:

(a) providing an optical pumping source producing optical pumping radiation, and an actively stabilized unidirectional ring cavity, including a Brewster-cut frequency conversion crystal; and

(b) ~~(a) determining a predetermining the beam path direction of a the frequency conversion crystal which results in such that a minimum degradation of generated converted frequency; and~~

~~(b) amplifying radiation of an optical pumping source by using an optical cavity having at least one frequency conversion crystal disposed such that said crystal is passed by the radiation only in a predetermined beam path direction.~~

Claim 4 (currently amended): A frequency-converted laser apparatus comprising

an optical pumping source for producing optical pumping radiation;

a unidirectional ring cavity comprising a frequency conversion crystal, a prism and mirror arrangement, wherein the frequency conversion crystal is positioned such that the radiation produced by the optical pumping source enters in a predetermined direction, and wherein the frequency conversion crystal is a symmetrical Brewster-angled crystal, and at least one frequency conversion crystal for forming a uni-directional beam path.

Claim 5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): The frequency-converted laser apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising coupling optics disposed between the optical pumping source and the ring cavity.

~~wherein the frequency conversion crystal is disposed in such a way that said crystal is passed by the radiation only in previously determined preferred beam path direction.~~

Claim 7 (currently amended): The frequency-converted laser apparatus according to claim 5 ~~4~~, wherein the resonant uni-directional unidirectional ring cavity is an external resonant unidirectional cavity.

Claim 8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (currently amended): A frequency-converted laser apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the frequency conversion symmetrical Brewster-angled crystal is a Brewster-cut Beta-Borium Borate (β -BaB₂O₄ or BBO) crystal or a Lithium Triborate (LiB₃O₅ or LBO) crystal.

Claim 10 (previously added): A frequency-converted laser apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising a stage amplifier.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A frequency-converted laser apparatus according to claim 7 ~~4~~, wherein the prism is connected to a piezoelectric element.

Claim 12 (new): A method for producing a frequency-converted laser apparatus comprising the steps of

- (a) determining a beam path direction of a frequency conversion crystal which results in a minimum degradation of generated converted frequency; and
- (b) arranging the crystal in an optical cavity of a laser apparatus such that said crystal is passed by the radiation only in the determined beam path direction.